March 13, 2023

Mike & Amy Steinke 993 133rd Ave SE Hope, ND 58046

Legislative District 29

Dear Chairman Heinert and members of the House Education Committee,

We strongly support Senate Bill 2328. It would greatly benefit many North Dakota school districts with the Hope-Page School District being one of them. With a lower number of students in our schools, we do face financial challenges, but still want to offer our students a variety of experiences. We feel Senate Bill 2328 will help us keep our schools open. Three of our children have graduated from Hope –Page High School and our daughter is in her Junior year there. We cannot express how thankful we are that we were able to send them to schools close by.

Our communities of Hope and Page need their schools in their towns to attract future residents and to retain the ones they have. Our communities are close knit and support our students in all of their activities. By attending a smaller school and growing up in a smaller community, our kids learn how to communicate with all ages, gain organizational skills, experience a variety of volunteer situations and learn to have a strong work ethic. Our hope is that with the help of Senate Bill 2328, we can continue educating our kids close to home and being lifelong residents of North Dakota.

Amy Stanke

Sincerely,

Mike & Amy Steinke

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